

02-277
BY DATE OR LATE FILED

April 18, 2003

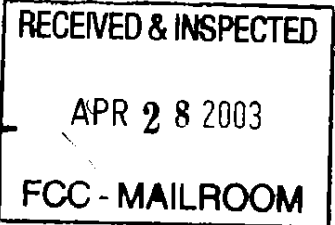
Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

APR 29 2003

Distribution Center

ORIGINAL



I am opposed to Chairmen Powell's proposal to deregulate what little is left of the FCC's rules and regulations that were originally designed to prevent total monopolization and centralization of media ownership. My main concern is for what appears to be the rapidly dwindling access that American citizens have to unbiased and uncensored news and current events. It is painfully obvious that as the means of distribution for news becomes more and more consolidated under the control of fewer and fewer entities of private ownership, the more censored the scope of news stories in our world and nation becomes and the more biased and narrow the shows and opinionated spokesmen become for the point of view dictated by the ownership. Clear Channel is an excellent example of the failure of deregulation in this regard, giving one corporation extraordinary power and domination over huge markets with little or no competition. Case in point, Clear Channel has effectively censored any opinion or information that does not support the motives of the current Administration, effectively cutting off access to factual information that Americans have a right to know. Promoting deregulation will effectively consolidate all news and information into the control of a few corporate giants. Even broadband access will come under centralized consolidation and control. This is an extremely dangerous situation.

The removal of what were once laws to prevent common ownership of both newspapers and broadcast media in the same geographic area has resulted in the rapid centralization of media and a corresponding decline of diversity of opinion and news information. Managed by the views of the ownership or directors that control them, these centralized news sources censor news that don't support their views. The same centralized media promote talk shows with hosts who evangelize their positions, leaving a vacuum of existing contrary opinion and facts. Just look at Fox news. And ABC, NBC and CBS all appear to have jumped on the bandwagon of selective and biased news reporting. We are living in a country that is looking more and more similar to what we once viewed in the communist nations as the "state controlled media."

The United States cannot remain a free and democratic republic if its citizens are deprived of a free press. In a nation where all news and information is highly censored and extremely biased to shape public opinion to the ends of a small group, its citizens will have lost the ability to make informed and intelligent choices. I strongly urge you to oppose any further FCC deregulation with all of your available resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leo Elovitz".

Leo Elovitz
Buellton, CA

A handwritten mark in black ink, resembling a stylized "C" or "G".

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FEB 11 2003, CA 94000



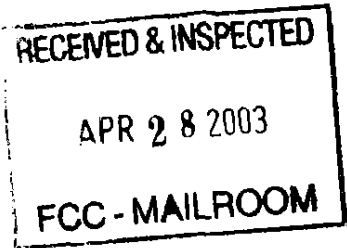
Kevin J. Martin
Commissioner
F.C.C.
445 12TH Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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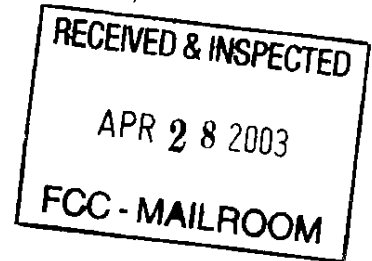
Leo Elovitz
Buellton, CA

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Michael J. Copps
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

CONTINUED
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ORIGINAL

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Sincerely,

Leo Elovitz
Buellton, CA

EX PART 177 62 ED

April 18, 2003

Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Confirmer
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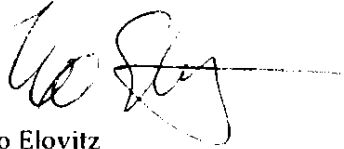
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Leo Elovitz
Buellton, CA

